

National Geographic Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education Initiative

PA Chesapeake Champions...

Exploring Our Connections to the Bay

Teacher Team Application—Introduction

The Pennsylvania Alliance for Geographic Education, in collaboration with The Renfrew Institute for Cultural and Environmental Studies, The Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, and the Alliance for Aquatic Resource Monitoring (ALLARM at Dickinson College), will be leading National Geographic's Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education Initiative in Pennsylvania during the 2012–2013 academic year.

Middle school teachers from public and private schools located in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed are encouraged to apply. Teams of 2–4 teachers per school will be selected to participate in professional development and curriculum activities during the 2012–2013 school year.

All teachers must attend two workshops at Shippensburg University (February 23 and March 23, 2013) as well as engage with colleagues in an online forum from November 2012–May 2013.

Each teacher will receive a \$500 stipend and Act 48 hours at the completion of the project. [A graduate credit option will also be offered, details available by mid-September].

Additionally, teachers will receive free classroom materials and field-based resources. Schools will receive National Geographic recognition in May 2013 for their participation.

Two primary goals of the project are:

- To enhance teacher knowledge about Pennsylvania's influence on the Chesapeake Bay using field-based experiences and technology; and
- To facilitate active engagement of middle school students in collecting and analyzing data in their own watershed so that they develop a lasting understanding of the scale of connections between their local watershed and the Chesapeake Bay.

Teacher Team Applications are due no later than September 28, 2012.

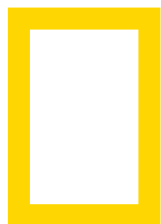
Selected teacher teams will be contacted by October 19, 2012. Limited to 50 teachers.

For more information:

Dr. Jan Smith, Coordinator for the Pennsylvania Alliance for Geographic Education
at Shippensburg University. (jssmit@ship.edu or 717-477-1757)

Please complete the following application (pages 2 & 3) and return to:

Dr. Jan Smith, Coordinator
PA Alliance for Geographic Education
Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

National Geographic Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education Initiative

Teacher Team Application

Page 2 of 3

School _____ School District _____

School Team Lead Teacher Name _____

(NOTE: The team leader will be the primary contact for your school's team.)

Grade Level _____ Subject(s) Taught _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Additional School Team Members (min.=1, max.=3 additional teachers • maximum team total=4)

	Name	Email	Subject(s)	Grade Level
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Your answers to the following questions will help guide the selection of participants and will ensure that the workshops meet the needs of participating schools. Please use a separate sheet if more convenient.

1. To what extent is the Chesapeake Bay Watershed included in your current curriculum? Be as specific as possible including: length of time devoted to the Chesapeake Bay and local connections to the bay, learning objectives, when it is taught (month), and the strategies used to teach the content.
2. How would you like to expand/enhance your current teaching about the Chesapeake Bay? Again, be as specific as possible.
3. Describe how the goals of this grant-funded initiative align to your curriculum.
4. This initiative will help teachers develop or enhance hands-on field experiences (on or off school property) for their students. Briefly explain how you will get your students in the field for fieldwork in your local watershed.
5. This initiative includes GIS training using National Geographic's Field Scope free online data program for teachers and students. How will your school provide access for this technology? [Note: Technology limitation does not disqualify applicants. Special software is not required.]

Mandatory criteria for teacher team selection:

- All team members must commit to attend two one-day workshops at Shippensburg University (February 23 and March 23, 2013).
- All team members must participate in online professional development activities November 2012–May 2013. Estimated weekly time commitment will be approximately one hour. [*Example*: Reading an article and joining an online discussion board.]
- All team members must submit a final project evaluation (form provided) and develop a team presentation (i.e. brief PowerPoint, Prezi, etc.) about their school involvement in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education Initiative.

Your signatures below indicate your commitment to this project if your team is selected to participate.

School Team Lead Teacher

Date _____

Team Members:

Date _____

Date _____

Date _____

I approve of the application of teachers from _____ (name of school)
in the _____ (school district) to participate in the National Geographic Chesapeake Bay
Watershed Education Initiative project—*PA Chesapeake Champions*—during the 2012–2013 academic year.

Principal Signature

Date

Thank you for your application!

